## **PCT**





#### INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: WO 97/00281 (11) International Publication Number: C08J 3/24, C08G 59/42 A1 3 January 1997 (03.01.97) (43) International Publicati n Date: PCT/US96/10330 (81) Designated States: AU, BR, CA, CN, JP, KR, MX, US, (21) International Application Number: European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, 13 June 1996 (13.06.96) GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). (22) International Filing Date:

US

(60) Parent Application or Grant (63) Related by Continuation US

08/492,179 (CIP) 19 June 1995 (19.06.95)

19 June 1995 (19.06.95)

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(30) Priority Data:

08/492,179

Filed on

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**Published** 

With international search report.

- (54) Title: TWO-PACKAGE SPRAYABLE COATING COMPOSITION
- (57) Abstract

A two-package sprayable coating composition having a binder that comprises, in one package, a chemical compound with functionality "A" and, in another package, a chemical compound with functionalities "B" and "C". Functionalities "A" and "B" react rapidly to build molecular weight without crosslinking while functionality "C" reacts with the reaction product of "A" and "B" or with "A" or with both, which reaction occurs more slowly than reaction of "A" with "B", to form a crosslinked film at cure.

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# TITLE TWO-PACKAGE SPRAYABLE COATING COMPOSITION

This invention concerns a two-package (known as a 2K) coating composition having a low volatile organic content (VOC).

The exterior panels of many automobiles and other outdoor articles are coated with a multilayer finish that contains a colorcoat or basecoat layer and a clearcoat layer. Basecoat-clearcoat systems have found wide acceptance in the past decade as automotive finishes. Continuing effort has been directed to such coating systems to improve the overall appearance, the clarity of the topcoat, and the resistance to deterioration, particularly environmental etching. Further effort has been directed to the development of coating compositions having low volatile organic content (VOC) for purposes of improved environmental safety.

A common coating composition contains epoxy resins and polymers which include cyclic anhydrides such as maleic anhydride and itaconic anhydride polymers and copolymers reacted with epoxy functional compounds. Other efforts to improve coating properties have suggested use of hydroxyl resins in combination with isocyanates to form urethane coatings. U.S. 4,755,581 concerns coating compositions having epoxy and hydroxyl functionality on separate molecules. The patent does not suggest the differential cure rate necessary to maximize solids content. Applicants effect solids maximization by use of a binder component that is normally expected to be volatile at the cure temperature, a very active catalyst, and epoxy and hydroxyl functionality in the same molecule.

With respect to the environmental impact of using solvent-based coatings, it is common for these to be employed in outdoor applications, such as clear and color coating on automobiles, storage tanks, rail cars, ships, bridges, utility structures, and the like. Public concerns over the emission of volatile organic compounds have made it desirable to coat such articles using compositions having relatively high solids content.

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#### **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

This invention concerns a heat-curable, two-package sprayable coating composition with a volatile organic content of no more than about 2.5 pounds per gallon and a binder that comprises:

- i) an organic chemical compound having a weight average molecular weight less than about 2,000, a polydispersity not exceeding about 1.5, and functionality "A";
- ii) an organic chemical compound having a weight average molecular weight less than about 2,000, a polydispersity not exceeding about 1.5, and functionalities "B" and "C"; and
- iii) an optional catalyst to promote a differential reaction rate of "A" with "B" and "C"; wherein:
- one of components i and ii is normally volatile at the cure temperature;

functionality "A" and "B" react very rapidly with each other upon mixing to build molecular weight without crosslinking, while retaining the volatile component;

functionality "C" reacts with the reaction product of "A" and "B" or with "A" or with both, which reaction occurs more slowly than the reaction of "A" with "B", to form a crosslinked film at cure; and

functionality "A" is separated from functionalities "B" and "C" until just prior to spraying.

Preferred functionality "A" is selected from one or more of anhydride, hydroxyl, amine, isocyanate, carboxylic acid, aziridine, carbodiimide, acrylate, methacrylate, and the like.

Preferred functionality "B" is selected from one or more of anhydride, hydroxyl, amine, isocyanate, carboxylic acid, aziridine, carbodiimide, acrylate, methacrylate, and the like.

By "polydispersity" is meant weight average molecular weight divided by number average molecular weight, both measured by gel permeation chromotography.

Preferred functionality "C" is selected from one or more of hydroxyl, isocyanate, melamine, epoxy, carboxylic acid, anhydride, ketamine, aldimine, carbonate, oxazoline, silane, and the like.

It is common to use low molecular weight volatile compounds, such as solvents, to lower the viscosity of a coating for spray application. These compounds, because of their volatility, lower the measured weight solids of the coating and thus increase VOC. This invention concerns a method of reacting these types of volatile compounds into the film to preclude evaporation, thus reducing VOC. Increasing the overall reaction rate alone would result in a coating with a very short pot life and very poor flow and leveling. This invention accomplishes this incorporation through the use of sequential reactions. Using a noncrosslinking fast reaction to incorporate volatile components and a slower crosslinking reaction to cure the film allows for a coating with excellent appearance, flow and leveling, sag resistance and film properties at very low VOC.

One skilled in the art will appreciate which of functional groups "A", "B", and "C" to react to achieve rapid noncrosslinking reactions and which to react to achieve slow cure (crosslinking). Typical representative "A" plus "B" reactions (very rapid):

20 anhydride + hydroxyl anhydride + amine

isocyanate + primary amine

isocyanate + secondary amine acid + aziridine

25 acid + carbodiimide

amine + pendant acrylate/methacrylate.

Typical "C" plus reaction product of "A+B" and/or "A" (slower reaction rate than above):

hydroxyl + isocyanate

hydroxyl + melamine

hydroxyl + epoxy

acid + epoxy

anhydride + epoxy

amine + epoxy

isocyanate + ketamine

isocyanate + aldimine

isocyanate + epoxy

isocyanate + acid

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acid + melamine carbonate + amine acid + oxazoline silane + silane silane + hydroxyl.

For this combination of reactions to work well in forming a coating, the product of "A" plus "B" should be soluble or compatible in the final coating or be able to melt at the cure temperature to form a uniform coating film.

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#### **DETAILS OF THE INVENTION**

### Compound (i)

Compounds meeting the described requirements of low molecular weight, low polydispersity, and presence of "A" functionality are generally known to one skilled in the art. What has not been appreciated heretofore is the effect that can be achieved with a composition formed from the reaction product of such compound(s) with compounds (ii) described hereafter.

Typical specific compounds that meet the recited requirements include monomeric cyclic anhydrides, such as methylhexahydro phthalic anhydride, and anhydride oligomers having a central organic moiety and more than one pendant, noncyclic anhydride moiety bonded to each central moiety. The anhydride is asymmetrical, and preferably contains a moiety represented by the following formula:

$$CM \begin{pmatrix} O & O \\ || & || \\ C-O-C-R \end{pmatrix}_{n}$$

wherein (CM) is a central moiety, (R<sup>1</sup>) is an organic moiety, and n is a number of pendant anhydride groups that averages greater than one.

The central moiety can be aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic, with a plurality of anhydride groups bonded to it. Alternatively, it can contain a plurality of repeating units which are bonded to one or more pendant anhydride groups. Examples of suitable non-polymeric central moieties are those derived from multifunctional alcohols such as pentaerythritol,

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trimethylolpropane and neopentyl glycol. The multifunctional alcohols are reacted with cyclic, monomeric anhydride such as methyl hexahydrophthalic anhydride to give a multifunctional acid-containing moiety. The resulting product is then reacted with ketene to form the pendant anhydride.

The central moiety is linked to more than one noncyclic anhydride moiety, on average. It is preferably linked to at least 2 noncyclic anhydride groups on average and more preferably to at least 3 noncyclic anhydride groups on average. The anhydride equivalent weight (formula weight per anhydride group) is preferably about 200 to 1000. The molecular weight (weight average) of the anhydride resin is preferably 400 to 1,000, and the anhydride resin preferably has 3 to 4 pendant, noncyclic anhydride moieties bonded to each central moiety.

Each anhydride moiety is typically terminated by an organic group (R<sup>1</sup>). This group is preferably aliphatic and more preferably alkyl. It preferably contains no more than about 6 carbon atoms, more preferably no more than 4 carbon atoms, and is most preferably methyl.

The oligomeric anhydride can optionally contain a polyvalent organic moiety (PVO) that is linked to a plurality of anhydride groups by a plurality of pendant linking groups (LG), as illustrated in the following formula:

The linking group (LG) can contain, for example, ester linkages, alkylene groups, ether linkages, urethane linkages and combinations of them. The polyvalent organic group can contain, for example, a polyvalent alkyl or aromatic group. The combination of the polyvalent organic moiety (PVO) and the linking groups (LG) forms the central moiety (CM) as previously described. The central moiety can optionally contain other functional groups in addition to the pendant noncyclic anhydride groups, including pendant acid groups. The molar ratio of pendant noncyclic anhydride groups to pendant acid groups in the oligomeric anhydride is preferably at least about 25:75, more preferably about 50:50, and more highly

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preferably about 75:25. Most preferably, the anhydride contains substantially no pendant acid groups. The central moiety can also contain minor quantities of cyclic anhydride moieties.

Another example of an "A" compound is an isocyanate, such as the isocyanurate trimer of hexamethylene diisocyanate which can be reacted with compounds (ii) such as volatile amine/alcohols or amine/aldimines.

## Compound (ii)

Compounds meeting the described requirements of low molecular weight, low polydispersity, and presence of "B" and "C" functionalities are generally known to one skilled in the art. What has not been appreciated heretofore is the effect that can be achieved with a composition formed from the reaction product of such compound(s) with compounds (i) described above.

Typical specific compounds that meet the recited requirements include compounds that contain both epoxy and hydroxyl functionality such as: sorbitol polyglycidyl ether (DCE-358 from Dixie Chemical), mannitol polyglycidyl ether, pentaerythritrol polyglycidyl ether, glycerol polyglycidyl ether, low molecular weight epoxy resins such as epoxy resins of epichlorohydrin and bisphenol-A and low molecular weight resins containing glycidyl methacrylate or glycidyl acrylate and a hydroxyl functional monomer such as hydroxy ethyl acrylate.

Other examples of compound (ii) are volatile amine/alcohols or amine/aldimines which can be reacted and retained in the film through rapid reaction with isocyanate functional crosslinkers such as the isocyanurate trimer of hexamethylene diisocyanate. Another example of compound (ii) is a volatile epoxy/hydroxyl-containing compound such as glycidol which can react with the anhydrides described with respect to component (i).

## Optional Catalyst (iii)

Compositions of this invention can contain a functional amount of active catalyst to increase the reaction rate between "A" and "B" at temperatures below the bake temperature, preferably at room temperature. This accentuates the difference in rate between the volatile incorporation reaction and the

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crosslinking reaction. Particularly beneficial catalysts in the anhydride/hydroxyl/epoxy reaction are tertiary amine catalysts such as triethylene diamine, bis(2-dimethyl aminoethyl)ether and N,N,N1,N1-tetramethylethylenediamine.

Other Ingredients:

The compositions of the present invention can contain a surface tension reducing agent in an amount sufficient to wet the surface onto which it is applied. A wide variety of surfactants can be used, depending on the particular coating formulation and the surface onto which it is applied. However, conventional silicone and fluorocarbon surfactants have been found to be satisfactory.

The coating compositions of the present invention are formulated into high solids coating systems and can be dissolved in at least one solvent. Preferred solvents include aromatic hydrocarbons such as petroleum naphtha or xylenes; ketones such as methyl amyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl ethyl ketone or acetone; esters such as butyl acetate or hexyl acetate; and glycol ether esters such as propylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate.

The coating compositions of the present invention can also contain conventional additives such as pigments, stabilizers, rheology control agents, flow agents, toughening agents and fillers. Such additional additives will, of course, depend on the intended use of the coating composition. Fillers, pigments, and other additives that would adversely affect the clarity of the cured coating will not be included if the composition is intended as a clear coating.

Other optional ingredients can be added to the coating compositions to achieve a desired balance of properties, including epoxy functional oligomers such as di- and polyglycidyl esters of carboxylic acids, such as Araldite CY-184® from Ciba-Geigy, or XU-71950 from Dow Chemical and cycloaliphatic epoxies, such as ERL-4221 from Union Carbide; and monomeric or polymeric alkylated melamine formaldehyde resins or silane-containing oligomers or resins. Small amounts of high molecular weight acrylic or polyester resins common in the art can also be added.

The compositions of the present invention are typically applied to a substrate by conventional techniques such as

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spraying, electrostatic spraying, roller coating, dipping or brushing. A surprising aspect of this invention is the ability to spray these very low VOC coatings with excellent appearance using conventional two component equipment. The substrate is generally prepared with a primer and/or a colorcoat or other surface preparation prior to coating with the present compositions. Clearcoats of the present coating compositions are preferably applied using conventional techniques such as application over dried waterborne basecoats.

After application to a substrate, the present compositions are cured by heating to a temperature of about 125° to 140°C for a period of about 15 to 90 minutes. The performance characteristics of the final cured coating composition are excellent, providing a combination of excellent gloss and durability to abrasion, sunlight and acid rain.

## EXAMPLE 1

PART 1	Parts by Weight
Milldride® MHHPA from Milliken (70/30 weight ratio	44.62
of methyl hexahydrophthalic anhydride and	
hexahydrophthalic anhydride)	•
BYK-301 (silicone flow additive from BYK-Chemie)	0.26
bis(2 dimethylaminoethyl) ether (Niax A-99 from	1.49
Union Carbide)	
Tinuvin 384 (UV screener from Ciba Giegy)	0.56
Tinuvin 292 (hindered amine light stabilizer from	1.39
Ciba-Geigy)	
PART 2	
XUS-71950	
(diglycidyl ester of 1,2 cyclohexane dicarboxylic acid from Dow)	38.10
DCE-358 (sorbitol ether epoxy from Dixie Chemical)	12.15
Tinuvin 384	1.43
Total	100

This composition was sprayed using a 2-component gun over a waterborne basecoat which had received a warm air prebake to remove water. The final coating was baked for 30



minutes at 285°F. The weight solids of this clearcoat at spray was over 96% when measured at 60 min at 110°C. The film had excellent appearance, cure, hardness, and chemical resistance.

5 <u>EXAMPLE 2</u>

<u> </u>	
PART 1	Parts by <u>Weight</u>
Milldride® MHHPA	39.47
25% tetra butyl phosphonium chloride in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate	1.71
20% BYK 301 in methylethyl ketone (silicone flow add from BYK Chemie)	1.11
25% NIAX A-99 in methylethylketone (tertiary amine from Union Carbide)	7.38
Tinuvin 384	1.76
Tinuvin 292	1.23
PART 2	
XUS-71950 (diglycidyl ester from Dow)	31.43
DCE-358 (sorbitol ether epoxy from Dixie Chemical)	13.27
butyl acetate	2.64
Total	100

These two parts were mixed and sprayed over a waterborne basecoat which had received a warm air prebake to remove water. The clear was sprayed at Fischer #2 cup viscosity = 45 sec. The cure was 30 min at 265°F. The clear film build was 2-2.5 mils. The spray solids of this clearcoat was 89+% by weight. The film had excellent appearance and cure (hardness and solvent) resistance (against methyethylketone).

#### EXAMPLE 3

PART 1	Parts By <u>Weight</u>
Milldride® MHHPA	<b>22.</b> 4
20% BYK-301 (BYK Chemie)	0.63
25% NIAX A-99 in methylethylketone	3.0
butyl acetate	3.0





#### PART 2

sorbitol ether epoxy (DCE-358 from Dixie Chemical) 27.4

These components were mixed and applied over a primed steel panel and cured for 30 min at 265°F. The film gave excellent cure (hardness and solvent resistance) and chemical resistance.

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#### **EXAMPLE 4**

	Parts by
PART 1	<u>Weight</u>
Milldride® MHHPA	16.8
linear anhydride*	7.0*
20% BYK 301 in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate	0.63
25% tetra butyl phosphonium chloride in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate	0.97
25% NIAX A-99 (tertiary amine from Union Carbide) in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate	3.00
Tinuvin 384	1.00
Tinuvin 292	0.7
PART 2	
XUS-71950 (diglycidyl ester from Dow)	19.12
DCE-358 (sorbitol ether from Dixie)	6.1
butyl acetate	1.5

The components were mixed and the clear was thinned to Fischer #2 cup viscosity = 45 secs with butyl acetate and sprayed over a waterborne basecoat which had received a warm air prebake to remove water. The system was cured for 30 minutes at 265°F. The spray solids of this clearcoat was over 84% by weight. The film had excellent appearance, cure, hardness and mar resistance.

#### 15 \*Linear Anhydride

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A crosslinking agent was prepared by mixing together 5 moles of adipic acid, 5 moles of azeleic acid, 2 moles of isononanoic acid, and 24 moles of acetic anhydride, reacting the

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monomers at 140°C while removing acetic acid as a by-product, heating the mixture to 160°C when acetic acid ceased flowing out, and removing an excess of acetic anhydride to terminate the reaction. The resulting linear anhydride was dissolved in propylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate at a concentration of 80% by weight. The linear anhydride has the formula:

wherein R is the isononanoic group, R' is a blend of adipic and azeleic groups, and n is about 10.

## EXAMPLE 5

PART 1	Parts by <u>Weight</u>
Milldride® MHHPA	111.38
linear pendant anhydride*	81.6
25% tetra butyl phosphonium chloride in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate	6.78
20% BYK-301 in methylethylketone	5.69
25% NIAX A-99 in methylethylketone	20.14
PART 2	
XUS-71950	119.12
DCE-358	44.3
butyl acetate	10.94

The components were mixed and the clear was thinned
with butyl acetate to Fischer #2 cup visocisty = 60 secs. The clear
was sprayed over waterborne basecoat which had received a warm
air prebake to remove water. The system was cured for 30 minutes
at 265°F. The spray solids of this clear was over 83% by weight.
The film had excellent appearance, cure (hardness and solvent
resistance) and chemical resistance.



## Linear Pendant Anhydride

The anhydride resin was prepared from a tetrafunctional half-acid ester. The following constituents were charged to a reaction vessel equipped with a heating mantle, reflux condenser, thermometer, nitrogen inlet, and stirrer:

Portion 1	Parts by Weight
pentaerythritol	478.0
methyl hexahydrophthalic anhydric	de 2250.0
triethylamine	0.5
Portion 2	
xylol (135-145°C)	2250.0
T	otal 4978.5

Portion 1 was charged into the reaction vessel, heated to 180°C under a nitrogen blanket and held for 30 minutes. After the hold period, the reaction mixture was cooled and Portion 2 added.

10 The solution prepared above was used to make a linear pendant anhydride. The solution was charged into a 5L flask equipped with a stirrer and a gas inlet tube. The gas inlet tube was attached to a ketene generator and ketene was bubbled through the solution until all of the acid groups were converted to anhydride groups. Reaction progress was monitored via infrared analysis. Solvent was then removed under vacuum to give a linear pendant anhydride having 78% weight of solids and anhydride eq. wt. of 329 ±4 (on solution basis).

EXAMPLE 6	
Part 1 Milldride® MUHDA	Parts by Weight 22.4
acetate	0.63
25% NIAX A-99 in propylene glycol monomethylether	3.0
acetate	•
butyl acetate	4.0
	Part 1 Milldride® MHHPA 20% BYK-301 in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate 25% NIAX A-99 in propylene glycol monomethylether acetate

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Part 2

XUS-71950 19.12 DCE-358 6.1 Resimene BM-9539 (melamine resin from Monsanto) 11.2

These components were mixed and a film was applied over a primed steel panel. The film, cured for 30 minutes at 265°F, had excellent hardness and solvent resistance.

EXAMPLE 7

Example 2 can be modified by adding a low molecular weight acrylic resin containing glycidyl methacrylate and gammamethacryloxypropyl trimethoxy silane to Part 2 to improve chemical resistance and marring. A typical resin which can be added at a 10% level on binder solids contains styrene/butyl methacrylate/butyl acrylate/glycidyl methacrylate/gammamethacryloxypropyl trimethoxy silane (15/25/20/15/25 by weight %). The weight average molecular weight of this resin would be approximately 4,000.

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### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- A heat-curable, two-package sprayable coating composition with a volatile organic content of no more than about 2.5 pounds per gallon and a binder that comprises:
- i) an organic chemical compound having a weight average molecular weight less than about 2,000, a polydispersity not exceeding about 1.5, and functionality "A";
- ii) an organic chemical compound having a weight average molecular weight less than about 2,000, a polydispersity not exceeding about 1.5, and functionalities "B" and "C"; and
- iii) an optional catalyst to promote a differential reaction rate of "A" with "B" and "C"; wherein:

one of components i and ii is normally volatile at the cure temperature;

functionality "A" and "B" react with each other very rapidly upon mixing to build molecular weight without crosslinking, while retaining the volatile component;

functionality "C" reacts with the reaction product of "A" and "B" or with "A" or with both, which reaction occurs more slowly than the reaction of "A" with "B", to form a crosslinked film at cure; and

functionality "A" is separated from functionalities "B" and "C" until just prior to spraying.

- 2. A composition according to Claim 1 wherein functionalities "A", "B", and "C" are selected from members of the group anhydride, hydroxyl, amine, isocyanate, carboxylic acid, aziridine, carbodiimide, acrylate, methacrylate, oxazoline, carbonate, melamine, epoxy, ketimine, aldimine and silane.
- 3. A composition according to Claim 2 wherein "A" is selected from at least one member of the group anhydride, hydroxyl, amine, isocyanate, carboxylic acid, aziridine, carbodiimide, acrylate, methacrylate and silane; and the source of "B" and "C" is selected from at least one member of the group anhydride, hydroxyl, amine, isocyanate, carboxylic acid, aziridine, carbodiimide, acrylate, methacrylate, melamine, epoxy, ketimine,



aldimine, carbonate, oxazoline and silane, capable of reacting with the selected "A".

- 4. A composition according to Claim 3 wherein the chemical compound source of "A" is isocyanate and the chemical compound source of "B" and "C" is selected from the group hydroxyl, amine and silane.
- 5. A composition according to Claim 3 wherein the chemical compound source of "A" is anhydride and the chemical compound source of "B" and "C" is selected from the group hydroxyl, epoxy and silane.
- 6. A composition according to Claim 3 wherein the chemical compound source of "A" is methyl hexahydrophthalic anhydride and the chemical compound source of "B" and "C" is a blend of a sorbitol polyglycidyl ether containing hydroxyl groups and the diglycidylester of cyclohexane dicarboxylic acid.
- 7. A composition according to Claim 2 wherein the polydispersity is about 1 to 1.2.
- 8. A composition according to Claim 3 which also contains a linear pendant anhydride having a weight average molecular weight less than about 2000, the anhydride containing central moieties and, on average, at least three pendant, noncyclic anhydride moieties bonded to each central moiety.
- 9. A composition according to Claim 3 which also contains a linear anhydride with two noncyclic anhydride groups and represented by the following formula:

$$R-C-O-C-R-C-O-C-R$$

wherein R is a monovalent hydrocarbon group having 1 to 50 carbon atoms, R' is independently selected from a bivalent



hydrocarbon group having 2 to 50 carbon atoms, the hydrocarbon groups R and R' optionally containing an ether linkage, urethane linkage or ester linkage, and n is an integer of 1 to 500.

10. A method for the spray application of a coating composition according to Claim 1 comprising contacting compound (i) with compound (ii) just prior to spraying, and spraying the combination of compounds (i) and (ii) to build molecular weight and cure the coating, optionally in the presence of a catalyst.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
1PC 6 C08J3/24 C08G59/42 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C08J C08G IPC 6 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ' Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ EP, A, 0 257 512 (PPG INDUSTRIES, INC.) 2 1-3,5-7,March 1988 10 Υ 1-3,5-10 see page 3, line 19-57 see page 6, example A see claims 13,15,19-24 Y US,A,5 418 297 (O. ISOZAKI ) 23 May 1995 1-3,5-10 see claims 1,3 see column 8, line 50-60 see column 9, line 13-22 see column 10, line 35-53 see examples 13,14 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report **1** 7. 10. 96 2 October 1996

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	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		1_
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
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